

PROPOSALS

FOR

Taxes V. 4.

A very Easie TAX

To Raise between

Two and Three Millions of Money,
Per Annum,

(If not a greater Sum)

In the room of the

LAND-TAX,

To begin to pay

The Publick Debts, and discharge the NATION,
not only from all those Taxes that these Two late Expensive
Wars have loaded Us with, but from all other Taxes that are
paid to Her MAJESTY, in a few Years; time with other
happy Consequences that will accrue to the Kingdom in general,
if it should be laid on and continu'd.

A L S O

PROPOSALS for the further Encouraging
the Woollen-Manufactures of this Kingdom in foreign Parts.

By EPHRAIM PARKER.

PROPOSALS

FOR THE

CONSTRUCTION

OF THE

NEW

BRIDGE

AT

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THE
P R E F A C E
TO THE
R E A D E R.

ONE great Happiness of good Princes, is to reign over Subjects free from publick Debts, and not loaded with too many Taxes.

But such a Happiness Her Majesty does not enjoy at present by reason of the two late Wars, the Expensiveness of which have loaded Her Subjects with immense Debts, and with innumerable Taxes; Debts so large, that Her faithful Commons has thought too great for the present Generation to pay, therefore have laid part of this heavy Load on Posterity, which (if it should continue) will in some sense make them feel the unhappy Effects of the Calamities we have undergone.

And Her Majesty having so often express'd Her affectionate Concern for the welfare of all Her People, I presume it cannot but be a great Satisfaction to Her to see them paid off in a little time if it can be done with ease, and not to leave such a multitude of Debts and Taxes for our Posterity to pay, as they can scarce be able to bear, and under which they must needs sink, if it should be their Misfortune to be involv'd in such a War as we have been.

Therefore in order to pay those great Debts that now lies heavy on us; I here offer some Proposals for a very easie Tax, which if the Honourable House of Commons shall think fit to lay on, will effectually pay them off in a few Years time; and if afterwards continu'd, the Nation may not only be freed from all other Taxes that are paid to Her Majesty, but (if thought convenient) from two other very heavy unequal Taxes we now pay, and which our Fore-fathers have paid for many Generations past.

I grant the laying this Tax on will add a little more (for the present to the Burden we now bear, but 'twill certainly lighten it in a short time, so that our selves and Posterity may never feel the like Weight again.

THE PREFACE to the READER.

The chief Reason for my publishing these Proposals, before communicated to the Honourable House of Commons, is, that as it will be the greatest and most universal Tax that ever was rais'd in the Kingdom, and being of so great Consequence, and on such Goods as the Nation have always thought heretofore too great a burden on the Subject, to lay a Tax on (but I question not but it will appear by the following Proposals, to be the reasonablest Tax that can be paid) so that every one may be made sensible of the many great Advantages that will accrue (if it should be laid on) and not to have an ill Opinion for want of knowing the Benefit of it, as a great many People have had about settling the Trade to France.

I confess it is an unusual way to publish Proposals for laying on of Taxes, but depending on the usual Candour and favourable Constructions of those that are more immediately concern'd in Affairs of this Nature, humbly hoping that the Reasons before-mention'd, and the great Pains taken to serve the Publick, will be an Appology for my publishing them in such a manner.

And since by these following Proposals it will plain appear, (as far as any thing of this Nature can be made appear before try'd) that the publick Debts may be paid off with ease in a very few Years time; and as Her most Gracious Majesty has nothing more at Heart in this Life, than to see the Prosperity of all Her Subjects. Let us in Gratitude pray for the long Continuance of so valuable a Life as Her Majesty's is, to see these great Things accomplish'd, so that now the greatest War that was ever carry'd on is finish'd; and when the greatest Debts the Publick ever ow'd are paid off, She may still continue to enjoy the Fruits of Her indefatigable Pains in obtaining so glorious, so happy, and lasting a Peace, to Reign over a loving, obedient, and most flourishing People, not loaded with Debts and Taxes; which is, and ever shall be, the sincere and hearty Prayers of Her Majesty's

Most Obedient, most Humble,

AND

Most Dutiful Subject,

Ephraim Parker.

T H E

P R O P O S A L S.

THAT a Duty be laid on the Manufactures following to be made in the Kingdom of *Great Britain*, viz.

On all Goods made or mixt with Silk or Hair to pay according to the Prices following, from 12 *d.* to 3 *s.* per Yard, to pay 2 *d.* per Yard from 3 *s.* to 6 *s.* to pay 4 *d.* from 6 *s.* to 10 *s.* — 6 *d.* from 10 *s.* to 15 *s.* — 12 *d.* from 15 *s.* to 20 *s.* — 18 *d.* from 20 *s.* to 30 *s.* — 2 *s.* from 30 *s.* to 40 *s.* — 3 *s.* from 40 *s.* to 3 *l.* — 5 *s.* and all above 3 *l.* per Yard, to pay 10 *s.* per Yard.

And all Goods made or mixt with Wool, from 2 *d.* to 6 *d.* per Yard to pay $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* per Yard from 6 *d.* to 12 *d.* — 1 *d.* from 12 *d.* to 2 *s.* — 2 *d.* from 2 *s.* to 4 *s.* — 4 *d.* from 4 *s.* to 8 *s.* — 6 *d.* from 8 *s.* to 12 *s.* — 12 *d.* from 12 *s.* to 20 *s.* — 18 *d.* and all above 20 *s.* per Yard, to pay 2 *s.* per Yard.

And on all Strip'd Linens, printed Callicoes and Linens, all under 12 *d.* per Yard, to pay 2 *d.* per Yard from 12 *d.* to 2 *s.* — 4 *d.* from 2 *s.* to 4 *s.* — 6 *d.* from 4 *s.* to 6 *s.* — 9 *d.* from 6 *s.* to 10 *s.* — 12 *d.* from 10 *s.* to 15 *s.* — 18 *d.* from 15 *s.* to 20 *s.* — 2 *s.* and all above 20 *s.* per Yard, to pay 3 *s.* per Yard; This Duty is not proposed over and above that already laid on, but in the room of it; for this Reason there is Callicoes printed from under 6 *d.* to above 20 *s.* per Yard; but as the Duty is now, all pays 3 *d.* per Yard alike.

And upon all Goods to be made or mixt with Cotten (except White Callicoes and Mullins) from 4 *d.* to 6 *d.* per Yard to pay $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* per Yard, from 6 *d.* to 12 *d.* — 1 *d.* from 12 *d.* to 2 *s.* — 2 *d.* from 2 *s.* to 4 *s.* — 4 *d.* from 4 *s.* to 6 *s.* — 6 *d.* and all above 6 *s.* per Yard, to pay 9 *d.* per Yard.

All which Duties to be paid by the Makers and Printers, and they to give account of the Place of their Abode, and Places of Working, &c.

And the better to enable the Makers to pay the said Duty notwithstanding the Custom of giving Credit, the Buyer to pay them so much Money down as the Duty of what he buys comes to, which in an Average may amount to about 2 *s.* in the Pound, which is considerably less than the Taxes almost on all other sorts of Goods.

It's not intended by these Proposals to charge any sorts of Goods made as aforesaid, that is, not of the breadth of six Inches.

And that there be a leaden Seal fix'd on every piece of Goods, with the quantity of Yards, and the Price it pays *per* Yard to Her Majesty Stamp'd thereon, and a Penalty on those that Counterfeits the said Seals, or takes it off of one Piece to put on another to defraud Her Majesty of Her Duty.

And also a Drawback of all the said Duty for what shall be Exported into foreign Parts (provided it be in whole Pieces) to be paid to the Exporter, but the Exporter or some concern'd for him to make Oath of the quantity of Pieces and Yards in every Pack or Parcel to be Exported, and that the Seals of the Duty where on every Piece, for which there is to be a Drawback before the packing them up, and how much every Piece has, or is to pay to Her Majesty, or to have no Drawback; but if the Exporter or any for him shall make Oath that there be more Pieces or Yards in a Pack or Parcel than there is, or charg'd with a greater Duty than they really have, or is to pay, than the Pack or Parcel to be forfeited, &c.

But to prevent Her Majesty being defrauded of the Drawback by shipping the aforesaid Goods at one Port, and reland 'em again in another; if any Master of a Ship shall pretend to take any of the aforesaid Goods on Board for foreign Parts, and reland 'em again in the Kingdom, except his Ship shall receive so much Damage that he must unlade the whole to repair the same, he shall suffer, &c.

Some Reasons for laying this Tax on in the room of the Land-Tax, 1st. Because the Land-Tax was always unequally paid, but this cannot, for every one will pay according to their Abilities and Occasions serve. 2^d. To the Land-Tax there is but a few in comparison of the whole Nation that pay, and a great many that are better able than many that pay to the Land-Tax pays nothing, but in this few or none will escape, but will be sure to pay something yearly, altho' but a small matter. 3^d. This Tax will raise more Money annually than the Land-Tax ever did, as may be seen by the following Account. 4th. To take the Land-Tax off, I hope will be very acceptable to the Nobility and Gentry, by easing them from the great Burden they have lain under in their Estates for many Years past, and to lay this Tax on in its room, will be but a small Charge either to Rich or Poor, as appears by the Accounts following. 5th. By laying this Tax on 'twill be so universal, that it will with the other Taxes already appropriated pay off (as I have hereafter made appear) in a few Years time all the great Debts of the Nation therefore need not leave our Posterity burden'd with Taxes for almost Ages to come. 6th. By laying this Tax on will be no hindrance to the Exportation, by reason of the Drawback of all the said Duty for what will be sent abroad,

And that it may appear how easie this Tax will be if laid on, I will add a Computation what a Gentleman and a poor Man's Family may be suppos'd to pay annually at the most to this Tax. If a Gentleman of 1000 *l.* *per An.* has a Lady, two Sons and two Daughters, at Men and Women's Estate, and keeps a Coachman and one Footman, if he allows himself and his two Sons, each two Suits, his Lady two Suits, his two Daughters each one Suit, and his Coachman and Footman, each a Suit according to the Prices following.

		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
6 Suits for the Men.	30 Yards Cloth at 20 <i>s.</i> per Yard, to the Queen 18 <i>d.</i> per Yard is	02	05	00
	72 Yards Silk for Linings at 3 <i>s.</i> the Q. 2 <i>d.</i>	00	12	00
	36 Yards Dimity at 18 <i>d.</i> the Q. 2 <i>d.</i>	00	06	00
	60 Yards Silk for three Morning-Gowns at 4 <i>s.</i> the Q. 4 <i>d.</i>	01	00	00
4 Suits for the Ladies	120 Yards Silk at 10 <i>s.</i> per Yard, the Q. 6 <i>d.</i>	03	00	00
	For Linings and under-Petticoats to the Queen about	00	10	00
	50 Yards Silk for three Morning-Gowns, at 4 <i>s.</i> the Q. 4 <i>d.</i>	00	16	08
	40 Yards Silk for 3 Hoods and 3 Scarves, at 6 <i>s.</i> the Q. 4 <i>d.</i>	00	13	04
2 Suits for the Ser- vants.	10 Yards Cloth, at 6 <i>s.</i> per Yard, the Q. 6 <i>d.</i>	00	05	00
	12 Yards Shalloon, at 20 <i>d.</i> the Q. 2 <i>d.</i>	00	02	00
	12 Yards Dimity, at 12 <i>d.</i> the Q. 1 <i>d.</i>	00	01	00
		09	11	00
		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
A 1000 <i>l.</i> per Annum, at 2 <i>s.</i> per Pound, to the Land-Tax is		100	00	00
To this Tax per Annum, at the most but		09	11	00
Difference		90	09	00

which is not 2 *d.* $\frac{1}{2}$ in the Pound instead of 2 *s.* but I do not pretend that a Gentleman of such Estate and Family must lay out so much yearly for Apparel as will amount to the above said Duty, it being only to shew, that if he did, the great difference there will be between paying to the Land-Tax and to this.

Suppose a poor Man has a Wife and four small Children, not able to work, if he buys himself and each of his Family a Suit a year as follows.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
6 Yards of course Cloth for himself, at 2 <i>s.</i> to the Queen 2 <i>d.</i>	00	01	00
8 Yards of Stuff for his Wife, at 12 <i>s.</i> the Queen 1 <i>d.</i>	00	00	08
16 Yards ditto for the four Children.	00	01	04
	00	03	00

but no poor Man buys Cloaths so often, therefore the Duty will not be so much to him every year, and by these two Accounts it may be gueſt how eaſie this Tax will prove to the middle sort of People.

But it may be Objected, that if this Tax should be laid on where the Parliament lays 1 *d.* the Retailer will advance another, so make the Duty double to the Consumer.

To which I answer, it's almost impossible to do by reason the Retailers are so populous, and where there is a reasonable Profit to be got, no one will turn a Customer away because he does not advance as much more in the Price as the Duty comes to, so that with Submission, this Objection cannot be of any weight against the laying this Tax on.

But since the foregoing Accounts does not demonstrate how much this Tax may produce yearly; therefore I will compute it after this eaſie manner. If in the Kingdom there be ten Millions of People (as I have hereafter demonstrated there may be and more) and divided to lay out yearly one with another for Apparel the following Sums, viz.

	l.	s.		l.	s.		
500000 to lay out	10	00	a year the Duty is about	20	00	—	500000
1000000	05	00		10	00	—	500000
2000000	03	00		06	00	—	600000
2000000	02	00		04	00	—	400000
1500000	01	00		02	00	—	150000
1000000	00	10		01	00	—	50000
2000000 to lay out nothing, which is one in five exempted, but that							2200000

1000000 is more than can be thought to be excused from paying to this

Tax, so that it may raise a greater Sum, and then the Goods used in Bed-furniture, Window-curtains, and all other Uses which may amount to $\frac{1}{4}$ part of the Sum above being

550000

2750000

The Land-Tax used to raise the Sum of ———— 2043805

Difference. 706195

So that by these foregoing Accounts this Tax appears to be the greatest, the easiest and the easiest that ever was rais'd in the Nation, and will not cost near the Money Collecting as the Duty of Excise does; therefore if the *Honourable House of Commons* shall please to lay it on, and continue it, 'twill produce these happy Consequences following.

First, This Tax appearing to be so great (altho' so easie) by its being so universal, that if it raise but 2500000 *l. per Annum*, besides the Charge of Collecting, and if the publick Debts be 45 Millions of Money it will pay them all off in 12 Years and $\frac{1}{2}$ time (provided the appropriated Taxes pays the Interest of the said 45 Millions, which at 6 *l. per Cent.* is 2700000 *l. per Annum*) as appears thus,

45000000 — owing	27561704	2500000
2500000 the first years Payment	3546298	7th Year 2650000
42500000	24015306	2809000
2650000 2d Year	3759076	8th Year 2977540
39850000	20256330	3156192
2809000 3d Year	3984620	9th Year 3345564
37041000	16271710	3546298
2977540 4th Year	4225498	10th Year 3759076
34063460	12046212	3984620
3156192 5th Year	4477228	11th Year 4225498
30907268	7568984	4477228
3345564 6th Year	4745861	12th Year 4754861
27561704	2823123	$\frac{1}{2}$ Year 2823123
		45000000

These are the yearly Payments,

N. B. The Increase of the yearly Payments is by the Produce of the appropriated Taxes, and lessening the Interest as the Principal is paid off; but should this Tax and those appropriated raise more than I propose, and the Principal paid off quarterly, the Debts will be paid off some years sooner than is computed above; but if the appropriated Taxes does little more than pay the Interest of what is owing, and no other Provision made for paying the Debts; the unhappy Consequence of which I submit to Consideration.

Secondly,

Secondly, That when the publick Debts are paid, all other Taxes (except on such foreign Goods as would be detremental to our own, and Plantation-Commodities) might be taken off, which will considerably lessen the Charge Her Majesty is at for Officers of all sorts.

Thirdly, If the Duties on all sorts of Goods that pays Taxes (except these here proposed) are taken off when the publick Debts are paid, what an immense Sum will be annually sav'd in the Price of Goods to what is now paid, this GREAT EASIE TAX will not amount to 1d. in the Shilling to most People to what they pay now in Taxes, by reason of the great Duty almost on all sorts of Goods.

Fourthly, By taking the Duties off of all sorts of Commodities after the publick Debts are paid (except as before is excepted) this Kingdom may be made the Grand Mart of the World, and we the happiest and most flourishing People in the Universe.

Fifthly, When the publick Debts are paid, and all other Taxes that are paid to Her Majesty taken off, then the Money arising by this Tax may be applied to the Uses following, or to what other Uses the *Honourable House of Commons* (then in being) may think necessary.

1st. For the Support of Her Majesty and Her Household.

2^d. To pay the Forces necessary for the Kingdom's Use by Land and Sea, and all Charges thereunto belonging.

3^d. To relieve all the Poor of each respective Parish in the Kingdom.

4th. To repair all the publick Roads, and to widen them where needful, according to the Act of the 8th of King William III. Chap. 16. except what relates to Charging the Inhabitants.

Now if this one equal easie universal Tax will pay the publick Debts in so few years time, and free the Nation from all other Taxes, and then defray the foregoing Charges, whether it will not be to the Advantage of the Kingdom to have it laid on and continu'd, then to continue so many unequal Taxes as is now paid for the same Uses, a Catalogue of which I have here set down that are laid on our selves at home (without mentioning the great Duties on all sorts of Goods from abroad) many of which are more burdensom than this Tax here proposed can be, viz.

<i>The Land-Tax</i>	<i>Coals and Culm</i>	<i>Hops</i>	<i>Hawkers and Pedlers</i>
<i>Stock in Trade</i>	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Post-Letters</i>	<i>Apprentices</i>
<i>Salleries</i>	<i>Windows</i>	<i>Soap</i>	<i>Printed Silks, Callicoes</i>
<i>Malt</i>	<i>Stamp Duty</i>	<i>Paper</i>	<i>Linens and Stuffs</i>
<i>Syder and Perry</i>	<i>Candles</i>	<i>Cards and Dice</i>	<i>Gold and Silver Wire</i>
<i>Beer and Ale</i>	<i>Coachmen</i>	<i>Starch</i>	<i>Transferring Stocks</i>
<i>Spirits</i>	<i>Chairmen</i>	<i>Salt</i>	<i>Policies of Insurance</i>
<i>Vinegar</i>	<i>Leather</i>	<i>Tonnage and Poundage</i>	<i>Printing Advertisements</i>
<i>Sweets</i>			

Most of which (except the Land and Malt-Taxes) with many others on foreign Goods are appropriated to pay the Interest of what is Owing, and not one of them equally paid according to People's Circumstance and Condition as this Tax will be, and for an Answer to those that may object, that this looks too like a general Excise

rise therefore ought not to be laid on. I will ask this Question, What Soul living in England that is exempted from all these foregoing Taxes?

And since there have been several Objections made against the laying this Tax on, I will here insert them with such Answers as I question not but will prove to most Mens Satisfaction.

Objection. To compute the Number of People in the Kingdom to be Ten Millions is a great many more than there is, for there cannot be above Six Millions, so that that lessens almost half the Sum I propose to raise.

Answer. If there is any Probability in the following Computation (for it's impossible to be certain) there is more then Ten Millions of People; for in the Year 1700. there was reckon'd to be in England and Wales 1319016 Houses (and I presume they are not since lessen'd) if there may be allow'd one with another seven Persons in each House the Number is 9233112, and to allow for Scotland but one sixth part of the aforesaid Number, that is 1538852, which together make 10771964 Souls, and if Cottages are not included in the Number of Houses, there must be a great many Thousands more, but if there is not above Six Millions of People, then there must be allow'd no more than four Persons in each of the aforesaid 1319016 Houses one with another, the Number then will be 5276054, and for Scotland but One Million, which makes together 6276054 Souls; therefore I submit it to Consideration, which may be thought to be the nearest Computation the first or the last.

Object. Whereas to pretend to raise between two and three Millions per Annum by this Tax is abundantly more than 'twill do, for it cannot raise above 300000 l. per Annum, therefore will not answer the Ends proposed to pay the Debts off in so few years time.

Ans. What this Tax may raise annually, I grant there can be no certainty until try'd; but if there is not less then Ten Millions of People (as I hope it is demonstrated there is not) 'tis very reasonable to believe this Tax will not raise less than I propose, but a great deal more, as may be guess by the small Sums I compute, but Eight Millions of People to pay one with another, and in that Account I have not reckon'd any thing for the multitude of Foreigners that comes and buys all sorts of Apparel, and a great many small Parcels of all the aforesaid Goods, for which there will be no Drawback, which must still make the Sum the greater; therefore I question not but it will so well answer the Ends proposed, as to pay the Debts off in less than 12 Years time; but if what is bought by Foreigners, be added to our own Expences, and should raise no more than Two Millions per Annum clear of all Charges, and the Debts be, and the Taxes do, as I have said before, they will be paid off in 15 years time at furthest, but should there be no more than Six Millions of People, I presume they may pay two thirds of what I compute Eight Millions, to pay which is 1833332 l. per Annum, a much larger Sum than 300000 l. per Annum.

Object. To lay a Tax on the Staple Commodities of the Kingdom would be laying such a Burden on a multitude of poor People that they will not be able to bear.

Ans. In consideration of the good Consequences that this Tax will produce, both to Rich and Poor, it can be no Hardship to lay it on (nor the Burden so great as some may represent it) for it will not be taking, the Duty that every poor Maker may pay out of their Pockets, never to return again (by reason that will be paid them

them by the Buyer) besides they will reap the Benefit with the rest of Her Majesty's happy Subjects, by being eased from all other Taxes in a few Years time they now pay; and as to other poor People I have demonstrated how easie it will be to them, so that I cannot apprehend which way it can be hard on any sort of poor People: But suppose it should be a little hard on some of the poor Makers (the generality of which are but Journey-men to the great Traders) yet with Submission, that can be no great Objection against the laying this Tax on, for then the same might have been made against all others; for what Tax is there that is not hard on some poor Makers; therefore I will only ask this one Question, Whether a general Good should not be prefer'd before the Interest of a few particular Persons?

Question. How can it be made appear, that altho' a Gentleman of 1000 l. per Annum paid 200 l. a year to the Land-Tax; and to this not 10 l. a year; that this will raise more Money annually than the Land-Tax used to do.

Ans. As I said before in my Reasons for laying this Tax on in the room of the Land-Tax, by the multitude of Persons that will pay to this, to what paid to the Land-Tax; besides this will be more equally paid than the Land-Tax ever was; for if some paid 4 s. in the Pound, many others paid nothing near so much; so that considering the Unequality, and few that paid to the one, and the Equality and great Numbers that will pay to the other, it's reasonable to believe, that this Tax will raise more Money annually than the Land-Tax ever did.

Object. To fix a Leaden-Seal would be impracticable, by reason they may be Counterfeited, and Her Majesty cheated of part of Her Duty; besides, who must value the Goods to be made, if the Makers, that will be giving them the Liberty to pay what Duty they please.

Ans. It may be as easie to prevent the Counterfeiting the Seals of these, as those on other Goods, and there cannot be the Frauds to cheat Her Majesty of part of the Duty in these, as there is almost in all other sorts of Goods, for no Maker can begin and finish a Piece in one Day, so that the Officers may have time enough to take Account of what Goods is making; and as to valuing them, if the Officers are chosen at the first, out of the several Trades that this Duty may consist on, they will be comptent Judges to value the Goods that are made (and these may teach others as it's practis'd in the Excise) so that the Makers will not be left to value their own Goods, therefore of Consequence not left to pay what Duty they please.

Quest. Whether the Taxes now paid should all continue with this great Tax until the Debts are paid off.

Ans. Yes (except the Land-Tax) (nay and the Malt-Tax to, if the Honourable House of Commons shall not think fit to continue it towards the Supply for Guards and Garrisons) unless as the Debts are lessen'd it be thought proper to ease the Nation of some of those Taxes that lies heavy on the Poor; but if they were all to continue with this great easie Tax, for eight, ten or twelve Years, it's a very short time to what most of them are laid on; for they being laid on, some for ever, some for ninety nine, and others for thirty two Years.

Therefore as this Tax is propos'd, it can be no burden either to Rich or Poor to pay, nor no hindrance to the Exportation, but prove of that great Advantage to the Kingdom, as is before shew'd. *It's humbly hoped the Honourable House of Commons will so well approve of what is here propos'd, as to lay this Tax on, altho' it be upon some of the Staple Commodities of the Kingdom.*

POST-

P O S T S C R I P T.

THE *Dutch* buy many sorts of Dye, Stuffs, and likewise great quantities of White Woollen-Cloths of us, which they carry home, and Dye cheaper than we can do, by reason of the Drawback of almost all the Duty on the said Dye-Stuffs we sell them (which we pay our selves) so that they sell our own Goods at foreign Markets, cheaper than we can, and no doubt vend abundance of their own besides, which they make with the Assistance of the Wooll they get from us (as well as the *French*) by which means we lose the selling great quantities of Woollen Goods, as well as the Loss that many thousands sustain for not thoroughly Manufacturing those White Cloths we do sell; for every Piece of Cloth that comes White from the Maker to be fitted for a foreign Market employs the Clothworker, Dyer, Setter, Drawer, Packer, and several other Trades besides, as well as the Consumption of Buckram, Canvas, and many other sorts of Goods.

And likewise there was an Act past in the 11th Year of his late Majesty King *William*, for the better encouraging the Consumption of the Woollen-Manufactures of this Kingdom, that the Aulnage Duty after the Expiration of the Grant made by King *Charles II.* to the Duke of *Lenox* and *Richmond* should be paid no more, of which Grant there is about eleven Years to come.

Therefore for the further encouraging the Consumption of our Woollen-Manufactures in foreign Parts (for there cannot be too great Encouragement given to the Woollen-Trade) and employing many thousands of Her Majesty's Subjects in that Trade, more than now we do: It's proposed, that the Duty may be taken off of all sorts of Dye-Stuffs we use our selves (but that Foreigners pay the same Duty they do now) and likewise the Aulnage-Duty, and that the Neat-produce of both be made good out of the before-mention'd Tax (if laid on) the one to Her Majesty and the other to the most Noble Duke of *Richmond*, or to whom else it does belong, until the Expiration of the said Grant.

But the greatest Encouragement of all will be when the publick Debts are paid, to allow a Bounty out of this said Tax for every Piece of Woollen-Goods exported according to its Value; which Encouragements, if the *Honourable House of Commons* shall think fit to give the Woollen-Trade, and we can keep our Wool at home, there is no doubt but the whole Nation will find the happy Effects of it in a little time.

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